

THE COMMISSION ON VASAP

Holiday Statement

December 2014

This time of year brings many celebrations and time for holiday cheer. The Commission on VASAP, while wishing you a happy holiday season, reminds you to celebrate responsibly.

The Department of Motor Vehicle's Virginia Highway Safety Office reports that during the month of December 2013 there were **13** alcohol-related fatalities, **473** alcohol-related injuries and **702** alcohol-related crashes.

Drinking alcohol and driving do not mix. If you plan to consume alcohol, you should also plan not to get behind the wheel of a vehicle or ride a motorcycle, moped or scooter. Take the time before the celebration to arrange for a safe way home by designating a sober driver. If you do not plan ahead and you are impaired, you should call a sober friend or family member, call for a taxi, or use public transportation. If you make the choice to drive impaired, you are not only putting yourself at risk, you are also putting the safety of others at risk.

Getting arrested for DUI comes with many consequences such as temporary impounding of your vehicle, a fine and attorney's fees of up to several thousand dollars, installation of an ignition interlock, probation, and jail time.

The impact of driving impaired is devastating. Celebrate responsibly and think before you drink.

Happy Holidays!

